

could be seen but his glaring eye-balls. Aiming directly between them, I determined to fire, and straining every nerve to keep my hand from trembling, pulled the trigger. The report echoed and re-echoed through the surrounding forests. I knew no more—the excitement was too much for me—I swooned.

When I recovered, the whole company were in consternation. Some supposed the Indians had attacked us—others thought robbers were about to plunder us. As soon as I could speak I enquired if I had "killed him." "Killed who?" exclaimed all. "Why, the panther." This gave a new clue to the affair, and search was immediately commenced. But no panther was found—no blood—no tracks. Upon close examination it was ascertained that the ball had entered an old log, exactly in the centre of two particles of decaying wood which had formed into fox-fire, (phosphorus) and in the dark had the appearance of fire. The shadows occasioned by the flickering light, I had conjured into a huge panther, and in the height of boyish heroism, had fired at him.

This anecdote was a standing joke upon me for years, and even now I never go out on a hunting excursion without remembering *A Night in the Beech Woods*.

For the Maumee Express.

Mr. Editor.—I have a facetious next-door neighbor, who has a dry way of his own, of saying things. For the first time since the Canada war, I have seen a Patriot to-day. He came into my domain with a modest blush on his countenance, his coat slit open most sympathetically upon the left shoulder—his face bespotted with scars—his pants somewhat uncomfortably out at the knees, and his shoes presenting a miniature personification of two canoes. He bashfully enquired the road to Gibraltar. My next-door neighbor instinctively took the hint and asked him if he was not a Patriot. The gentleman evinced no disposition to evade the question, but promptly replied in the affirmative, and thereupon commenced a detailed account of the battles he had, and had not fought. The course of General Scott came in for a share of his animadversion. Among other things he said, the General, in a speech made to them, (the Patriots) at Sandusky, told them they were so fond of fighting, he had determined to give them enough of it,—together with many other things which I now disremember, but of which, nevertheless, the Patriot disapproved. My next-door neighbor was all attention and seemed to sympathize deeply in the cause of the Patriots. When he commenced, in reply, an animadversion upon the conduct of Gen. Scott, the Patriot's countenance, which till then had been downcast and beclouded, instantly lighted up; for he felt gratified and cheered at having found a sympathetic response in the bosom of so well appearing and intelligent a stranger. My next-door neighbor began by remarking that Gen. Scott occupied a very high and responsible position, and ought not to make assertions not characterized by the strictest regard to truth, and went on to say that assertions of the sort he had made, that the Patriots were fond of fighting, &c., &c., were but poorly sustained by facts—that so far as he had heard the facts in the different affairs they had had with the Royalists, the direct reverse had been the case, and they had invariably shown themselves the most peaceably inclined citizens in the world. The Patriot began directly to see the bearing of this remark, and started for the door, observing on his way out, that nothing but the grossest ignorance could have induced a remark of the kind. My next-door neighbor, however, tho' he regrets any disagreement with the Patriot, still thinks there is more truth than poetry in the remark at which he takes exceptions, and so thinks.

Your most obedient,  
BLUNDERBLUSS.

**DUELING LAW.**—On the 2d instant, Mr. Prentiss of Vermont, introduced a bill into the Senate to prohibit the giving or receiving a challenge within the District of Columbia, to fight a duel, and for the punishment thereof, which was read twice, by general consent, and referred to the committee on the Judiciary.

This bill inflicts the punishment of death on all concerned in a duel which results in death; from five to ten years confinement in the Penitentiary on all concerned in giving or receiving a challenge; and from three to seven years for assault, defamation, or abuse for refusing a challenge.

Charles Bacon, of the Missouri Iron Mountain Bank memory, is famous in Huron county on account of certain transactions with the Shawassee Company, (Mich.) and other similar operations. Bacon is, no doubt, a precious scoundrel.—*Adm.*

**CANAL LOCKS AND TENDERS.**—We learn that the following order has been lately adopted by the Public Works.—The matter is, we believe, of some interest to forwarders and boatmen.

**Ordered.**—That the Acting Commissioner on the Ohio Canal be authorized to erect Lock Houses, and employ Lock Tenders, at such locks on said Canal as he may deem proper, having due regard to the best interests of the State.—*Her.*

## MAUMEE EXPRESS.

SATURDAY, MARCH 24, 1838.

**OUR PAPER.**—The next number closes the first volume of the Maumee Express. Our thanks are due to our customers generally, and the Merchants of Maumee City in particular, for the liberal manner in which, during these hard times, they have contributed to our support. We have still many accounts remaining unsettled, and we would earnestly request our subscribers, and others indebted to us, to bear us in mind. We want to improve our paper, and to lay out a large sum in materials for that purpose, and this sum we must receive from those who are indebted to us, and we have determined to improve our sheet in proportion to the payments we receive.

**THE ACT OF INCORPORATION.**—The Act incorporating Maumee City, has at length passed both houses of the Legislature, and become a law. Its provisions, as we understand, do not vary materially from those fixed upon by our citizens, as the basis of the petition.

**THE BLACK SWAMP ROAD.**—Perhaps no matter of equal local importance, with that of this thoroughfare, has been acted upon the present session. We are happy to learn that the bill has passed both houses, and has irrevocably become the law of the land. The bill provides for a loan of forty thousand dollars, to be expended during the present year, in McAdamsing the road, under the superintendence of the Board of Canal Commissioners. We understand that the commencement is to be made at this end of the route, thus improving the worst part first, and rendering available, both for the use of the road, and for building purposes, the fine quarries of stone that abound in this portion of the Black Swamp.

**CLEARING OUT.**—The ice moved out of the river opposite this place, in grand style, on Sunday last. Some damage was done at the ship yards, and upon the wharves, and much of the fence was swept from the bottoms above. The water was higher than has been observed in any spring freshet since 1833. We are in hopes of seeing the steamboats in motion in a few days.

**FIRST ARRIVAL.**—The steamboat Wayne, belonging to this place, which ran last season upon the upper Maumee, broke from her moorings above Defiance and drifted down the river to Waterville, on Sunday last. On Tuesday she was manned, and safely run over the dams and rapids to this place, having accomplished the distance of over fifty miles, without material injury, though most of the distance surrounded with floating ice, and with no person on board.

A bill incorporating a company to construct a Bridge across the Maumee river at this place, has been passed by the Legislature. We are not acquainted with the provisions of the bill, further than that the location fixed upon by the charter is the foot of Conant street.

**THE CANAL ESTIMATES.**—We understand that the long deferred estimates upon the Canal are at length to be paid. A report is current that they are to be paid in Post Notes of one of the Ohio Banks, due one year from date, and without interest. There is great reason to apprehend, if this should be the case, that the pressure heretofore felt in money matters will not, as has been expected, be relieved by the payment. It can hardly be expected that these Post Notes will circulate at par, and any depreciation will put a stop to their circulation. The whole circulating medium of the country has already passed through the hands of the contractors, and those who have made loans to contractors, are anxiously looking for something in return that will pay their debts in New York, without depreciation. We fear the Post Notes will not do it, and of course they will not circulate. In the mean time, the money lenders, whether Banks or individuals, must stop lending, when there is no prospect of payment; the Post Notes must lie dead in the hands of the receivers, and the wheels of trade must invariably stop—and then, what?

A meeting was held at the American House, in this city, on Wednesday last, which was numerously attended by citizens of Maumee, Perrysburg, and Toledo, for the purpose of taking measures to procure a daily steamboat mail

from Buffalo, direct to this river. There can be no doubt of the justice of our claims upon this head, as there is no good reason for sending our letters on a pilgrimage either to Detroit or through the Black Swamp, before they come to hand.

The Charter election in this city takes place on Monday, next.

The Schooner Tippecanoe, left this port yesterday, bound down.

Our readers will observe in our columns a call, signed by a large number of our citizens, for a county Whig meeting, to be held at the Commercial Buildings in Maumee City. We hope every township in the county will be represented. The time has come when a complete organization is expected and needed, not only in this county, but in this district. It is the only thing that can give us that weight in the National and State councils which our local situation, present and prospective importance, and the interests of the people demand.

"Troubles still seem to be brewing in Canada," says an exchange paper. It is plain that something aches the Province, whether it has been malt-treated or not.—*Hartford Courier.*

It seems that the Patriots have been pretty well mashed, and that 'stilling is now the only thing necessary.

**THE SUB-TREASURY.**—A vote has been taken in the Senate, on a motion to postpone Mr. Wright's Bill to the next session, which was decided (Yeas 23, Nays 29,) in the negative. The most common opinion as to the fate of that measure, at present, is that it will pass both Houses of Congress, and become the law of the land. Messrs. Allen and Morris, Senators from Ohio, are found among the most zealous advocates and supporters of the bill, notwithstanding the instructions they have received to the contrary.

Mr. Morris, of Ohio, has declared his intention to obey the instructions of the Legislature, in relation to the Sub-Treasury scheme. He says: "My views of instructions are, that the Senator, if he could obey consistently, should obey; and if he was in doubt upon any question, should obey; and if he disagreed with his constituents, he should not obey but resign."

He hoped the bill might be so amended as to be made acceptable to the people, but he doubted whether it would be so amended. He would not vote for that part of the bill which puts the public money under bolts and bars, into safes and boxes," &c.

It may, then, be safely inferred that Mr. Morris does agree with the instructions.

The bill dispensing with the services of the Board of Public Works, has passed, and the Board of Canal Commissioners is revived, in nearly the same form that it existed before the organization of the Board of Public Works.

The first number of the Common School Director, has been issued by Mr. Lewis, the School Superintendent of Ohio, and will be forwarded to every County Auditor in the State.

**DEATH OF GEN. SCOTT.**—Official intelligence has been received at the War Department, of the death of Gen. Winfield Scott. Report says that he was accidentally killed by one of his own men. No further particulars are given.

**GAMMON.**—One John Gammon, a negro, who is taking up subscriptions, professing for the assistance of a negro colony in Upper Canada, is said to be an impostor. Many of the good people of Ohio have by his agency become what the elder Mr. Weller elegantly called, "victims of Gammon."

### SUMMARY.

Sir George Arthur, the Governor elect of U. Canada, has arrived in New York, with his suite.

A call for a county meeting upon the subject of the repeal of the Small Bill Law, signed by 2,700 persons, was in circulation in Troy, N. Y.

Wednesday last, was the day appointed for the adjournment of the Legislature.

A large meeting has been held in Cleveland, which passed strong resolutions against the circulation of Shin-Plasters.

The Township elections in New York are going strongly against the friends of the Administration.

Petitions signed by more than 8000 voters of New York against the adoption of the Sub Treasury scheme, were presented by Mr. Tallmadge.

The correspondent of the Columbus Statesman, states that Doctor Duncan of Ohio, so frightened James Watson Webb, by merely looking at him, that he took to his heels, and has not been heard from since!

Mr. Davies of Pennsylvania, introduced a resolution into the House of Representatives of the United States, for an adjournment on the 10th day of May.

David R. Porter of Huntington county, has been nominated for Governor, by the Administration Convention in Pennsylvania.

A Convention of members of the legislature of Massachusetts, has nominated Mr. Webster for the Presidency.

The Painesville Republican charges the Courier and Enquirer with being in the pay of the British Royalists. A very saleable paper, that Courier and Enquirer.

The health of General Jackson has again become quite feeble by a return of his old complaint. Fears are entertained that he will not recover.

In our last we stated that the bill for the erection of Erie county, had passed both houses and become a law. We have since learned by Columbus papers that we were in error. The bill has been postponed to the first Monday of December next.

It is said that the present fashion of wearing the hair in long 'splatiches' over the ears was introduced by a cropped convict, in order to hide the evidence of his infamy.

A western editor in giving an account of a hurricane, says—"It is utterly impossible to describe the scene of desolation presented to the eye. We saw as many as four hogs killed."

The Newark Times advertises for a quantity of ducks with good broad bills, to clean the mud out of the streets. This is downright quackery.

A Jack Ketch lately undertook to hang a criminal, but in a state of mental absence, he put the rope round his own neck, and did not discover his mistake until he heard his neck crack when he was swinging off.

'John,' said a careful father, 'don't give cousin Simeon's horses too many oats—you know they have hay!'

'Yeth thur,' said John, moving towards the barn.

'And hark ye, John, don't give too much hay—you know they have oats.'

**INCIDENT IN THE BATTLE OF CHIPPEWA.**—While Gen. Scott was in town yesterday, several of our citizens called to pay their respects to him; among others, Mr. H. one of our most estimable citizens, who had known General Scott in the war of 1812. General S., in introducing Mr. H. to his aids, referred to an incident in the Battle of Chippewa. In the engagement on the 5th of July, 1814, General Scott said he saw three drummer boys who were near the troops and exposed to the fire of the enemy. He directed them to go back where they would be out of danger.—The boys retired; two of their drums had been spoiled by shot; and the three boys were disputing about the possession of the third drum, which was whole, when two of them were killed by a cannon ball, which took off the heads of both. General Scott said that one of the most affecting sights he ever beheld, was the surviving boy, gazing at the bodies of his two companions; it was a spectacle which made him weep. The boys were all about 15 years of age.—The survivor was (we presume there is no inelucacy in mentioning the name,) Mr. Jarvis F. Hanks, of this city, who, in reference to this incident, may say with the Roman poet, or in a more devout sense,

"Sic me servavit Apollo."

Cleveland Herald.

From the Cleveland Herald and Gazette.

**COMMERCE OF CLEVELAND.**—The deputy Collector of this Port, has obligingly furnished us with the following valuable statistics of the Lake Commerce of Cleveland, in 1837.

Whole number of American vessels arrived at the Port of Cleveland, with cargoes, the past year, 850. British vessels, 180. Aggregate tonnage of American vessels arrived with cargoes, 90,250. Of British vessels, 6,917. Aggregate tonnage of steamboats arrived the past year, 380,000. Whole number of schooners belonging to the Port of Cleveland, 51. Of sloops do. 8. Brigs, 3. Ships, 1. Steamboats, 9. Whole amount of tonnage belonging to the Port of Cleveland, exclusive of steamboat tonnage, 4,903. Whole amount of steamboat tonnage, 2,990. Whole number of men employed on board steamboats and vessels belonging to the Port of Cleveland, 558. \*Whole value of exports, to American Ports, from Cleveland, \$3, 160,800. Whole value of exports from Cleveland to foreign ports, \$203,000. †Whole value of imports in American vessels from American ports, \$4,258,900. ‡Whole value of imports of foreign growth and manufacture, in British and American vessels, \$94,500. Cleveland Harbor opened March 17, 1837, closed January 27th, 1838.

\*Principal articles exported, Flour, Wheat, Corn, Pork, Butter, and Lard.

†Principal articles imported are Merchandise, Salt, and Lumber.

‡Principal articles, Lumber and Stone.

It is a singular fact, that while the winter opened uncommonly warm in northern latitudes, in South America the first months of the summer were extremely cold and backward.

**RE-ACTIONS.**—The Albany Argus and its loco foco echoes, promised great reactions in the Empire state in the spring, and Croswell set up a loud shout over a slight gain in one or two early town elections. He will be mum hereafter, as the 'political tornado' of last fall does not appear to have yet spent its fury, and the last vestiges of Van Buren loco focism are being swept away by the people at the town elections. The late Whig papers from that state, are filled with glorious 're-actions.'

**PUBLIC SENTIMENT.**—The citizens of the Western Reserve speak but one sentiment in reference to the next Presidency. They exhibit, we are pleased to perceive, an undivided front in favor of Henry Clay. Meetings have been held in various other portions of the state, at which this distinguished statesman has been put in nomination, and notwithstanding the efforts which are making to forestall public sentiment in the southern counties, we believe that if the choice of the citizens of Ohio could be clearly ascertained, it would be found to be in favor of the illustrious statesman above mentioned. We hope that the Whigs of not merely the Reserve, but those of the State, generally, may speak out upon the subject, and declare their preference.—*Cleveland Intelligencer.*

**FIRE IN CINCINNATI.**—The large brick pork warehouses of Messrs. Schooley and Reeder, and Hartsorn and Child, together with a very large quantity of pork, lard, &c. were burned on the 7th inst. The warehouse of Miller & Lee, was seriously injured. The fire originated in the smoke house of Schooley & Reeder, which contained 350,000 pounds of bacon. The Whig estimates the loss at \$70,000—mostly insured.—*Herald and Gaz.*

**THE INDIANS.**—The small pox is making horrible ravages among the Indians of the far West. Major Pitcher informs the Indian Department from St. Louis, that the loathsome disease has converted the Indian country of the upper Missouri into one great grave yard. Of the Mandans, numbering 1600 souls, but 31 are left. The disease has reached the Blackfeet of the Rocky Mountains and swept off a band of 1000 lodges.—Other large tribes are sharing the same fate.—*Cleveland Gazette.*

**CURIOUS BIRD.**—One of the most singular species of feathered tribe probably in this country, may be seen at the store of Mr. John P. Bessonnet, No. 66, Nassau street. We are not sufficiently versed in ornithology to say to what genus this remarkable bird belongs, any more than it is said to be a native of the East Indies, is principally black, with a yellow streak near the neck, and about the size of the crow. Its very great peculiarity consists in its close imitation to the human voice, and the accuracy and distinctness with which it pronounces a number of words and sentences that it has been taught, and the facility with which it catches and repeats almost every description of sound. It has the faculty not merely of repeating what is said to it, but also of making pertinent replies to ordinary questions put to it.—Its voice very much resembles that of the old gentleman to whom it belongs, and for whom it seems to have an affectionate regard. When a stranger enters the store, the bird usually calls out to its master in the adjoining room, 'Uncle John—somebody in the store.' If it is asked by a stranger what its name is, it readily answers 'Mingo,' 'poor Mingo.' And not unfrequently returns the interrogatory 'what is your name?' It salutes every one that comes in with a cordial 'good morning,' laughs heartily at all the jokes which pass at his expense, whistles an infinite variety of tunes—coughs like an old man in consumption, and in short is so perfect in its imitation of the human voice, as to deceive any one who has never before heard him.

**A LOVE CURE.**—About twelve o'clock on Saturday night, the inhabitants of Steep-hill, Lincoln, were alarmed by loud and apparently sepulchral cries for help. Several people left their warm beds, and were directed by the screams for help to a well before the house of a widow, whence they heard the cries proceed. A rope with a ladder at the end, was put down, when an elderly man by the name of Rogers, was pulled up shivering with cold. The swain, who is between 60 and 70 years old, had had an appointment with the fair bereaved, who is less than half his age, but having been tempted to drink a little too much, instead of getting into the fair one's window, he slipped into the well.

An attempt was made during the last ten days to carry off the western Express Mail, by a negro boy at the Ferry House, St. Louis, on the Illinois side. The mail was lying in a room in the Ferry House, previous to being transported across the river, when the young little rascal very quietly threw it across his shoulder and was making off, when he was fortunately observed and deprived of his load. He was at once sent to prison to await his trial for mail robbery.

The British authorities are collecting rockets, and throwing up breast-works, along the river opposite Detroit. They better be quiet.—*Post.*

## Ohio Legislature.

**SENATE.**—We erred yesterday morning in reference to the bill for the abolishment of the Board of Public Works. That measure is not a law of the land. In its progress through the House, it received a number of amendments and was returned to the Senate, where it originated, for the concurrence of that body.—It there lies upon the table, its ultimate fate uncertain. One of the amendments of the House establishes an arbitrary division of the State into four districts, from each of which quarters, one of the Canal Commissioners shall be chosen.—Under this arrangement, should one district possess all the talent would be necessary for this important station, three fourths of that talent would be necessarily rejected, and individuals of inferior qualification are necessarily chosen from the other districts. It is believed that this feature of the bill will not receive the sanction of the Senate. Should the Senate disagree, we trust the House will not insist, as it is an amendment in which no important principle is involved.

**HOUSE.**—The small note law, as amended by the Senate, finally received the sanction of the House, on Monday evening. We consider this one of the most important measures perfected this session. The Assembly having deprived community of unauthorised individual notes, was bound to that community, to supply the vacuum thus created, by the substitution of the substitution of small notes of the authorised institutions of the State. This is done by the law in question, which is nothing more nor less than an unconditional repeal of the prohibitory law of 1836. The Franklin Bank of Columbus made a limited issue of small notes yesterday.

We regret to say, that the bill appropriating money to prosecute the Geological survey of the State, was indefinitely postponed, and that, too, on motion of a good whig. A re-consideration of the postponement was afterwards agreed to, and the bill re-committed to a Select Committee—Messrs. Hughs, Cook, and Johnston, of Carroll—from whose hands we trust it will be returned to the House in a shape that will ensure for it a very general support. Surely the Senate will not abandon this noble enterprise, after all necessary instruments have been procured for its prosecution, and after enough has been effected to prove its exceeding importance.

The amendments of the Senate, in reference to the Black Swamp Road bill, were agreed to, and the same is consequently a law of the land.

The House adopted a resolution to adjourn to-morrow, which now lies upon the Senate table, and will probably continue there until the time named has passed away.—*Columbus Register.*

SENATE MARCH 14, 1838.

**Reports of Standing Committees.**—By Mr. Green, from the Judiciary, certain documents relative to the removal of the seat of justice of Lucas county, asking to be discharged. The committee were discharged, and Mr. Bates moved the re-commitment of the subject to a select Committee, which, after a brief discussion, was agreed to.

On motion of Mr. King, the Senate took up the resolution relative to the right of Curtis Bates to a seat in the Senate. The motion of Mr. Vance to strike out the word *not*, in the resolution, having been lost, a motion was made for its indefinite postponement which was also lost—yeas 13, nays 19. After some remarks from Messrs. Bates, Vance, Wolton, and others, a question on agreeing to the resolution was taken and carried—yeas 17, nays 13.

Mr. King offered a resolution for payment of Curtis Bates, for his services as Senator; which was agreed to.

On Motion of Mr. McLaughlin, the Senate took up the resolution of the House for an adjournment *sine die*. Mr. King moved to strike out Thursday the 15th, and insert Monday the 19th, which was agreed to. The resolution was then adopted.

**LEGISLATIVE.**—The Walholding and Vernon river improvement bill has become a law, after a spirited opposition. The bill to incorporate the Black River Hydraulic Company, in Lorain county, is also a law, and to please the loco foco Hubbard and his supporters, in that county, the whigs permitted him to engraff all his radical notions into the act. The law will probably be a dead letter, so far as any organization of the company is concerned. The bill from the Senate to abolish the Board of Public Works, and revive the Board of Canal Commissioners was passed to a third reading in the House late on Friday night, after a warm debate. The Bill for the improvement of the Black Swamp Road passed both houses.—*Cleveland Herald.*

The Boston Courier says it is reported that the brother of Mr. Cilley has gone to New York to challenge Mr. Webb, and that he is determined to fight, and if Webb declines, he will shoot him in the street.

The Boston Atlas of Tuesday says—"The books of the Tremont House announce the arrival of the Right Hon. Earl of Gosford, late Governor General of Canada, with his suite."